

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Kindly rewrite claims 1-7 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An external skin preparation comprising:

(([1])a) octyl methoxycinnamate,

(([2])b) zinc oxide ~~selected from the group consisting of titanium oxide, zinc oxide and mixtures thereof, wherein the said oxides are hydrophobically~~ treated in a hydrophobic manner with one or more selected from the group consisting of methyl hydrogen polysiloxane and silane coupling agents, ~~metal~~ metal soap preprocessing, fluorine processing with perfluoroalkylphosphate diethanolamin salt and perfluoroalkylsilane, and processing with dextrin fatty acid ester; and

(([3])c) glucoside selected from the group consisting of polyoxyethylene methyl glucoside, polyoxypropylene methyl glucoside and mixture thereof.

2. (Currently Amended) [[An]] The external skin preparation according to claim 1, [[which]] wherein said external skin preparation is a sun-screening cosmetic.

3. (Currently Amended) An agent for reducing the skin irritation of octyl methoxycinnamate in an external skin preparation containing comprising ~~(([1])a) octyl methoxycinnamate, and (([2])b) oxide selected from the group consisting of titanium oxide, zinc oxide and mixtures thereof, wherein the said oxides are hydrophobically~~ treated in a hydrophobic manner with one or more selected from the group consisting of methyl hydrogen polysiloxane

and silane coupling agents, ~~methal~~ metal soap precessing, fluorine processing with perfluoroalkylphosphate diethanolamin salt and perfluoroalkylsilane, and processing with dextrin fatty acid ester, said agent comprising: [[and]]

(((3))~~c~~) glucoside selected from the group consisting of polyoxyethylene methyl glucoside, polyoxypropylene methyl glucoside and mixture thereof.

4. (Currently Amended) A method of reducing [[the]] skin irritation [[of]] caused by octyl methoxycinnamate in an external skin preparation ~~comprising:~~ (1) containing (a) octyl methoxycinnamate, and (b) ((2)) ~~oxide selected from the group consisting of titanium oxide, zinc oxide and mixtures thereof, wherein the said oxides are treated in a hydrophobic manner~~ hydrophobically treated with one or more selected from the group consisting of methyl hydrogen polysiloxane and silane coupling agents, ~~methal~~ metal soap precessing, fluorine processing with perfluoroalkylphosphate diethanolamin salt and perfluoroalkylsilane, and processing with dextrin fatty acid ester, said method comprising: [[and]]

(((3))) blending glucoside selected from the group consisting of polyoxyethylene methyl glucoside, polyoxypropylene methyl glucoside, and mixtures mixture thereof, into the external skin preparation.

5. (Currently Amended) [[An]] The external skin preparation according to claim 1, wherein the external skin preparation is comprised of at least 10% by weight of octyl methoxycinnamate ~~is at least 10% by weight.~~

6. (Currently Amended) ~~[[An]]~~ The external preparation according to claim 1, wherein the external skin preparation is comprised of from 1.0 to 15% by weight of octyl methoxycinnamate is in the range of 1.0 to 15% by weight.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~[[An]]~~ The external preparation according to claim 6, wherein the external skin preparation is comprised of from 2.0 to 10% by weight of octyl methoxycinnamate is in the range of 2.0 to 10% by weight.

Kindly add new claims 8-22 as follows:

8. (New) The external skin preparation of claim 1, wherein the zinc oxide is in powder form having a particle size of 1  $\mu\text{m}$  or less.

9. (New) The external skin preparation of claim 1, wherein the external preparation is comprised of 1-40 wt% of zinc oxide and mixtures thereof.

10. (New) The external skin preparation of claim 1, wherein the external preparation is comprised of 3-25 wt% of zinc oxide and mixtures thereof.

11. (New) The external skin preparation of claim 1, wherein the external preparation is comprised of 1-20 wt% of the glucoside.

12. (New) The external skin preparation of claim 1, wherein the external preparation is comprised of 2-15 wt% of the glucoside.

13. (New) The method of reducing skin irritation caused by octyl methoxycinnamate in an external skin preparation of claim 4, wherein the zinc oxide is in powder form having a particle size of 1  $\mu\text{m}$  or less.

14. (New) The method of reducing skin irritation caused by octyl methoxycinnamate in an external skin preparation of claim 4, wherein the external preparation is comprised of 1-40 wt% of zinc oxide and mixtures thereof.

15. (New) The method of reducing skin irritation caused by octyl methoxycinnamate in an external skin preparation of claim 4, wherein the external preparation is comprised of 3-25 wt% of zinc oxide and mixtures thereof.

16. (New) The method of reducing skin irritation caused by octyl methoxycinnamate in an external skin preparation of claim 4, wherein the external preparation is comprised of 1-20 wt% of the glucoside.

17. (New) The method of reducing skin irritation caused by octyl methoxycinnamate in an external skin preparation of claim 4, wherein the external preparation is comprised of 2-15 wt% of the glucoside.

18. (New) A method for reducing skin irritation caused by application to the skin of a cosmetic composition comprising octyl methoxy cinnamate with zinc oxide or hydrophobically treated zinc oxide, comprising:

blending with the cosmetic composition a glucoside selected from the group consisting of polyoxyethylene methyl glucoside, polyoxypropylene methyl glucoside, and mixtures thereof in a cosmetically acceptable vehicle.

19. (New) The method for reducing skin irritation caused by application to the skin of a cosmetic composition comprising octyl methoxycinnamate and zinc oxide or hydrophobically treated zinc oxide, of claim 18, wherein the cosmetic composition comprises 1 to 20 weight % of the glucoside selected from the group consisting of polyoxyethylene methyl glucoside, polyoxypropylene methyl glucoside, and mixtures thereof in a cosmetically acceptable vehicle.

20. (New) A process for reducing irritation caused by octyl methoxy cinnamate and ZnO, comprising adding glucoside selected from the group consisting of polyoxyethylene methyl glucoside, polyoxypropylene methyl glucoside, and mixtures thereof, to a cosmetic composition comprising a cosmetically acceptable vehicle and octyl methoxy cinnamate with ZnO or hydrophobically treated ZnO.

21. (New) The process for reducing irritation caused by octyl methoxy cinnamate and ZnO, of claim 20, wherein 1 to 20 wt % of glucoside selected from the group consisting of polyoxyethylene methyl glucoside, polyoxypropylene methyl glucoside, and mixtures thereof, is added to the cosmetic composition comprising a cosmetically acceptable vehicle and octyl methoxycinnamate and ZnO or hydrophobically treated ZnO.

22. (New) The process for reducing irritation caused by octyl methoxy cinnamate and ZnO, of claim 21, wherein the cosmetic composition comprises a cosmetically acceptable vehicle, 1 to 15 wt% of octyl methoxycinnamate, and 1 to 40 wt% of ZnO or hydrophobically treated ZnO.